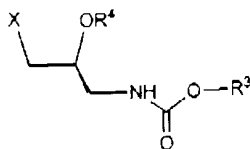
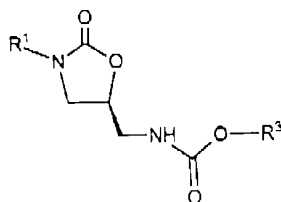


IN THE CLAIMS:

57. (New) A compound having a the S-configuration of general structural formula:

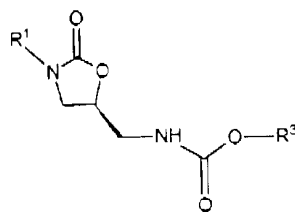


wherein R^3 is C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, R^4 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_5 alkylcarbonyl, X is halogen, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, or taken together with OR^4 to form an epoxide or an oxazolidinone having a general structural formula:

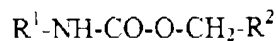


wherein R^1 is an aryl group, optionally substituted, or a salt or hydrate thereof.

58. (New) A method of preparing an (S)-oxazolidinone having a general structural formula:

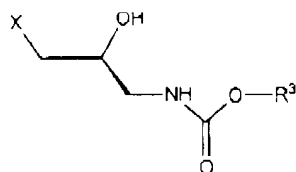


wherein R^3 is C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, and R^1 is optionally substituted aryl, or a salt or hydrate thereof, comprising contacting a carbamate having a general structural formula:

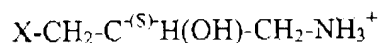


wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1 - C_{20} alkyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, aryl optionally substituted with one or two C_1 - C_3 alkyl or halogen groups, allyl, 3-methylallyl, 3,3-dimethylallyl, vinyl, styrylmethyl, benzyl optionally substituted on the phenyl with one or two Cl, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, nitro, cyano, or trifluoromethyl groups, 9-fluorenylmethyl, trichloromethylmethyl, 2-trimethylsilylethyl, phenylethyl, 1-adamantyl, diphenylmethyl, 1,1-dimethylpropargyl, 2-furanylmethyl, isobornyl, and hydrogen, or a salt or hydrate thereof, with

- i) a secondary alcohol having a general structural formula:

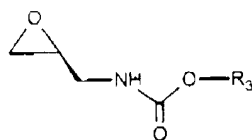


wherein X is halogen, alkylsulfonyl, or arylsulfonyl, or a salt or hydrate thereof made by the process comprising contacting an (S)-3-carbon amino alcohol having a general structural formula:

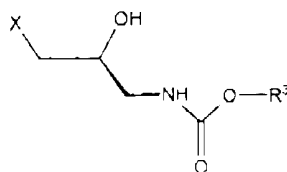


with a base and an carbonylating agent selected from the group consisting of a haloformate having a formula $R^3O-CO-X$ and a dialkyldicarbonate having a formula $R^3OCO_2R^3$;

- ii) an (S)-epoxide having a general structural formula:

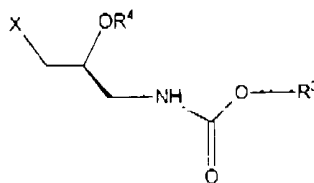


made by the process comprising contacting an (S)-secondary alcohol having a general structural formula:



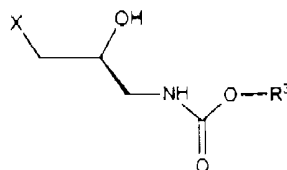
with a base and an acylating agent selected from the group consisting of an acid anhydride having a formula $O(R^4)_2$, and an activated acid having a formula R^4X ; or

iii) an (S)-ester having a general structural formula:



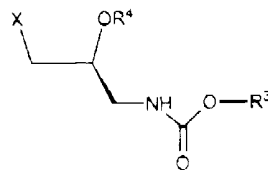
wherein R^4 is C_1 - C_5 alkylcarbonyl made by the process comprising contacting

a) an (S)-secondary alcohol having a general structural formula:



wherein X is a halogen, alkylsulfonyl, or arylsulfonyl; or

b) an (S)-ester having a general structural formula:



wherein R^4 is C_1 - C_5 alkylcarbonyl, with a lithium cation and a base whose conjugate acid has a pKa of greater than about 8;

in the presence of a lithium cation and a base whose conjugate acid has a pKa of greater than about 8.